

Westwinds turns 70



HAPPY BIRTHDAY WESTWINDS: (Front row L to R) Beth Finnegan, Lydia Hart, Jayne Guitart and Sally, the Black Lab. (Back Row L to R) Janet Lawson, Pat Cook, Mary Steinke, Jane Robbins, Janice Linehan, Karen O'Brien and Edie Devnew.

Westwinds' history began in 1946 when Margaret Carter Metcalf established the "Westwinds Bookshop and Lending Library" in the carriage house of her Washington Street estate. Locals could find their favorite books, both classics and new releases, conveniently in town without traveling into Boston. Through the years, the Bookshop has had a succession of dedicated booksellers, intent on carrying on Mrs. Metcalf's legacy. Following her tenure were Debbie Nelson Taussig, Franny Barker ('57), Charlotte Horne ('75), Bob Hale ('83), Nancy Blake ('90), Cissy Greenbaum ('98) and Marilyn Haraden ('05).

In 2010, owners Chris and Marilyn Haraden were planning to either sell Westwinds or, if a buyer could not be found, simply shut it down. It looked as though there would be no takers until Lydia and Douglas Hart decided that the 65-year old institution could not just disappear; too many generations had enjoyed its warm hospitality. The Harts bought the shop in the spring of 2011 and relocated it to larger office space in the Duxbury Marketplace.

Today, Westwinds is active partner in the community, collaborating with the Duxbury Free Library for their BookBreeze and Sunday Salon series, inviting visiting authors, such as William Martin, Mitchell Zuckoff and Hank Phillipe Ryan for a reading and stimulating discussion and offering activities for the public like a childrens' story time and craft activity and a drop-in book club.